NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

January 17, 1997

JUDY BLOCK TO CHAIR FIELD BOARD

At the December 16, 1996 meeting of the Board of Trustees, Judy Block (Mrs. Philip D. Block III) was nominated to succeed Leo Mullin as Chair. The formal election will be held at the Annual Meeting of the Board in the Founders' Room on February 17. Mr. Mullin endorsed Mrs. Block enthusiastically and summarized her background as follows:

> Judy Block is well-qualified to lead the Field Museum Board of Trustees. Currently she fills the role of Chair of the Field's $60 million **Connecting** campaign. As a Board member since 1985, Judy has also served as Chair of the Development Committee and Co-Chair (with Marshall Field) of the Nominating Committee. She is a past president of the Women's Board, and with her husband Philip (P.D.), has shared a family membership in the Museum since 1976 and membership in the Founders' Council since 1995.
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> Judy has been active in and provided leadership for numerous other organizations around Chicago and nationally. She currently serves on the Board of Northwestern University (her alma mater) and as Board President of the Child Welfare League of America.
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> She is the former president of both Know Your Chicago and the Chicago Child Care Society. Her numerous other civic activities include: the United Way/Crusade of Mercy of Metro Chicago as a past Vice Chairman; the Chicago Community Trust as a member of the Executive Committee; the Museum of Science and Industry as a member of the President's Council; The Latin School of Chicago as a Trustee; the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as a Women's Board member; the University of Chicago as a Women's Board member; the Goodman Theatre as a Women's Board member; Children's Memorial Hospital as a supporting member; the Chicago Historical Society as a Guild Member; the Art Institute as an Antiquarian Society member; and the Chicago International Theatre Festival as a supporting member.
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> Her husband Philip (P.D.) is Vice President of Capital Guardian Trust Company, and a former Inland Steel executive.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At the October 21 meeting of the Board, Timothy R. Schwertfeger was elected a Trustee. Mr. Mullin noted that he is the Chief Executive Officer of John Nuveen & Co., which is well-known as a major force behind the highly successful Chicago Humanities Festival. The Museum is deeply grateful for the Nuveen Company's underwriting of the 1995/1996 "Nuveen Forum at The

Field Museum -- Teaching Culture and Cultural Teachings: Conversations on Culture and Identity in America" and also for their underwriting of the 1993 publication of the history of The Field Museum. Mr. Schwertfeger has been a Founders' Council member since February 1995. His other civic activities include being a Director of the Lyric Opera in 1993, Chairman of the Hubbard Street Dance company, and a supporter of the Latin School. He graduated from Northwestern University (1971) and Georgetown University Law School (1974). Gail Schwertfeger serves on the boards of Urban Gateways and *Streetwise,* the homeless newspaper.

At the December 16 meeting of the Board, Gery J. Chico and William J. White were elected Trustees. Mr. Mullin and Marshall Field (Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee) expressed their great appreciation of their willingness of these outstanding inviduals to serve the Museum in this capacity.

Gery Chico is a partner at Altheimer & Gray, specializing in governmental law and finance, and formerly was a partner at Sidley & Austin. His other civic activities include being President of the Chicago School Board, Trustee of the Kohl's Children Museum, Director of the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago and former President of the Mexican American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois. In the early 1980's, Mr. Chico worked as a staff member for the City Council's Finance Committee under Alderman Burke. He was General Counsel of the Chicago Development Council while a partner at Sidley & Austin. In 1991 he was named Mayor Daley's Deputy Chief of Staff and head of the Department of Transportation. Late in 1992, Mr. Chico became Mayor Daley's Chief of Staff. He was educated at the University of Illinois and Loyola School of Law.

Mr. White is Chairman and CEO of Bell & Howell. Previously he was President and CEO of Whitestar Enterprises, Executive Vice President of U.S. Gypsum and President of Masonite Corporation. He has served as Director of T.J. International, the Chicago Stock Exchange. His civic activities include serving on the Boards of Northwestern University, Evanston Hospital, the Illinois Math & Science Academy Fund and the American Cancer Society. He is a graduate of Northwestern and Harvard Business School. Mr. White became a Field Museum Founders' Council member after attending the September 19 reception for John McCarter.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday January 14, 1997 was delivered by **Gregory Mueller,** Associate Curator, Mycology and Chairman Department of Botany, and **Qiuxin Wu,** Collections Manager, Mycology, Department of Botany, Field Museum. Qiuxin discussed the preliminary results of their joint research to document patterns of biodiversity and disjunct distributions of the fungi of eastern North America and eastern Asia. Greg followed with illustrations of many of the taxa in question and provided a visual summary of their field work in China during the Fall of 1996.

Joel Palka, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at University of Illinois at Chicago, and Research Associate, Field Museum, has rescheduled his lecture "The Production of Art and Crafts in the Classic Maya Economy" for Thursday, January 23 in the Zoology Classroom from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. All are invited to attend this lunchtime lecture. -- **Jim Foerster**, Anthropology

FIELD MUSEUM FAN MAIL

November 10, 1996

Ladies and Gentlemen (If I may ...)

"I need to get out more" is an oft heard phrase. Well ... Today I did and managed to bring myself to a lecture in your magnificent building. Nothing quite matches the feeling of "made it" until you navigate the twenty (+) miles to get to your "block," bounding up the stairs, past the Sunday crowds and "bingo" -- I have reached my intended destination.

And it was wonderful! And for what? A lecture [Dr. Sherwin Nuland, Professor/Author, "Death in Our Time" at the Chicago Humanities Festival"]. I caught the announcement in the paper last night and in spite of myself I somehow made the trek.

The lecture was many times over worth the effort it took to get there, but what I must say is how truly wonderful the staff were who I encountered.

Entering from the south, I could have been lost or ignored by my presence within the crowd just inside, but a tiny despair gave way to feeling as if I were a V.I.P. when the man [Wayne Gerdes, Visitor Services] with the red blazer, white hair and walkie talkie asked the crowd if there was anyone present to attend the Humanities series. While I was the only one of that group to raise up a hand, he spoke right up and told me to "follow" while he pointed in the direction of the huge globe ("take a left, go downstairs, ... etc.") which was very timely also since I was arriving just in time for the beginning of the program.

Heading in that direction I spied another walkie talkie [Carolyn Moon, Visitor Services] and with my assumption confirmed, got further instructions as to where to head. And another hundred years or so, another hall, another chance to get utterly lost, and yet I happen to encounter another gentleman [Ray Bondoc, Visitor Services] with a suit and badge (a-ha!) And he again was there with a warm smile and pointed "... you're almost there" ... and finally, turned a corner, down some stairs where two ladies sat by a table and confirmed that this was the place I sought and it was just beginning! -- and waved me in!

At the end of the lecture, I stayed to ask questions and the (I assume) museum/program man-in-the-suit [Will White, Institutional Advancement] thanked me for coming and bade me to return, and most sincerely, I might add!

Yet another walkie talkie totin' person [Sarah Highstone, Development] to get bathroom directions -- including a cheerful follow-up hail, and it was closing time. I didn't want to leave. I'll be there for your next overnighter!

Hey you guys ... alright!

XXX, Glenview, Illinois

Greetings,

A priest friend of mine, Father Schmitz, and I ventured down from Kenosha yesterday to view "Heaven on Earth". As a native Chicagoan, I must admit that the Field Museum of grade school memories was as boring as a text book. Bones and dust.

Perhaps you have redeemed yourself.

I am a Latin Catholic Artist and Designer living in rural Kenosha. My motto is ICONOCLASM NON HIC LOQUITUR (Iconoclasm is not spoken here). I am currently designing a new Altar, Communion Rails and mosaic floor for Saint George Parish.

Father Schmitz is bi-ritual; he is the pastor at Saint George Latin Catholic Church and pastor of Protection of the Mother of God (Byzantine - Ruthenian). Each congregation has their own separate worship space.

The Ruthenian Congregation have a chapel in the former grade school of Saint George parish. They built their own chapel space, including the Altars and Iconostasis. With all the Icons (at least three dozen) it is truly a House of God.

The exhibit was truly wonderful. Father found many items he would like to have to facilitate the Divine Liturgy, and I came away with at least three ideas to pursue in my artwork. I am sure that Fathers Homily this Sunday will reflect the awe and inspiration we both felt.

XXX

Let's do lunch!

It's important to keep abreast of personal legal issues that are relevant to our lives. The Chicago Bar Association is sponsoring "Lunch 'n' Learn," an opportunity to learn about various legal topics from experienced attorneys in the Chicago area. Below is a list of potential programs we could offer. Sessions would be held during the lunch hour in the Museum. Bring your "lunch 'n' learn!" Check all that you are interested in attending:

_____ **income tax preparation & planning** Get updates on changing tax laws. Bring your general income tax questions. Learn what to do if you become the target of an IRS audit.

_____ **insurance policies and payments** Do you want help understanding your insurance policies? Do you know what protection your health, auto, life and homeowner's insurance policies provide? Ask questions about premiums, payments and cancellations. Find out about new and proposed laws regulating the insurance industry.

_____ **wills & estate planning** You're never too young to have a will. A will is a means of providing for your loved ones in the event of a fatal accident or illness. This session explores several types of documents available to you and your parents, including simple wills, trusts, durable powers of attorney, living wills and estate planning.

_____ **family law** Know your legal rights and responsibilities regarding a major change in family life, such as separation, divorce or adoption. Hear general information about child support, visitation and custody.

_____ **landlord - tenant relations** The landlord - tenant relationship has much to do with whether or not an apartment is a good choice. What is included in the lease? How is the building maintained? Who is responsible for repairs? What happens to the security deposit? What are the tenant's rights if evicted? These and other questions will be answered during this session on rights and responsibilities of landlords & tenants.

_____ **investing in securities and commodities** Learn about investment fraud and how to avoid it. Topics covered include what to look for in a contract with a brokerage firm and recovering losses in securities and commodities if defrauded. Leading the presentation will be an experienced investment attorney with inside knowledge of brokers, traders, investment funds, arbitration and securities exchanges.

_____ **consumer fraud prevention** Don't become the victim of consumer fraud such as car sales and repairs, home remodeling work, phone solicitations and direct mail sweepstakes. Get the facts about deceptive business practices, credit disclosure laws and your rights as a consumer.

Also, would you be interested in an open forum lunch session with your Human Resources staff to discuss relevant issues? Yes _____ No _____

Return this survey to the Human Resources Department by Friday, January 31.

NEEDED -- INVOICE APPROVAL FORMS!

The purpose of the invoice approval form is to get confirmation from you that the goods or services described on the form were received and that it is OK to pay the invoice. We need these forms returned promptly to the Accounts Payable Office; otherwise the bills don't get paid on time, which can cost us extra money or result in a loss of credit from the company.

There is often a long delay in the return of these forms. We are in the process of revising the form and printing it on colored paper, so that it is easier to spot. We will also be implementing a policy that if the invoice approval forms are not returned in a timely manner, we will go ahead and pay the bill as received and your department will be charged.

All 1996 invoice approval forms must be returned to the Accounts Payable Office by FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1997, or we will pay the bill as received and charge it to your department. Questions? Call **Paula Robinson** (x258).

INVITATION TO STAFF PREVIEW

In conjunction with the next special exhibit **The Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou,** there will be two Staff Previews with the exhibit's Curator, Donald Cosentino. A thirty- minute lecture will be followed by a thirty-minute walk-through.

Wednesday, January 29	4:00 p.m.	Lecture Hall One
Thursday, January 30	10:00 a.m.	Lecture Hall Two

All staff are welcome to attend either part of either session, but please check with your supervisor. For more information, please contact **Mia Schillace** (X513).

Mr. Cosentino will also be hosting a public lecture entitled, "Vodou as Art and Culture" on Thursday, January 30 at 6:30 p.m. All staff and volunteers are welcome to attend at no charge. For more information, please contact **Sandra Blake** (x854).

We extend our deepest sympathies to the friends and family of **Emmet (Bob) Blake,** Curator Emeritus in the Division of Birds, who died Monday morning at the age of 88. Bob began working at the Field Museum in 1935 and retired as curator in 1973, but remained active at the museum until his health began failing several years ago. He authored two books (Birds of Mexico and Manual of Neotropical Birds) and dozens of scientific papers. He was a recognized authority on neotropical birds with extensive field experience. He described at least five new species of birds, and had a species of Peruvian antbird (Grallaria blakei) named for him in recognition of his contributions to ornithology. He is survived by his wife Margaret, two daughters and a grandson. A memorial service will be held for him on January 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the First Congregational Church, 1445 Hinman Ave., Evanston.

Volunteers are needed!

The Membership Department is in need of volunteers to help with the upcoming:

Afropop Worldwide Dance Party

This event will be held in Stanley Field Hall Friday, Feb. 28 from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
Volunteers will be asked to work a two hour shift in exchange for free admission.
Food and beverages will be available for purchase throughout the evening.
If you would like to volunteer, please contact Membership at (x453).

Thank you and congratulations!

The Health Fair Day was a BIG success with over 1/3 of the staff attending! A good time was had by all.

Door Prize Winners were:

Emergency Car kit with jumper cables	Eddie Redwood, Housekeeping
HMO Illinois warm-up pullover	Christine Ochoa, Housekeeping
HMO Illinois bag	Cynthia Gulley, Special Events
Stuffed Teddy Bear	Juan G. Hernandez, Maintenance
Stuffed Big Teddy Bear	Tami Fout, Tours
Stuffed Big Teddy Bear	Robin Foster, Botany
Stuffed Bunny Rabbit	Randy Scalf, Membership
Stuffed Tiger	Stephen Bell, Education

Thank you to all who helped with the event, especially **Cynthia Gulley** (Special Events), **Johnsie Golliday, Walter Alexander, Dewayne Jamison, Charles Alvarez and Leroy Thomas** (Housekeeping), **Phil Hanson** (Education), **Miss Elsie Guy** (Food Service), **Jean Cattell** and **John Petreikis** (Exhibits), **Floyd Bluntson** (Engineering) and **Rayfield Drake** (Audio Visual). The event could not have happened without all of YOU!

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.